

U.S. Not 'Invasion-Minded' on Cuba, Poll Shows

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CONTRARY to impressions in some quarters, the American people are no more "invasion-minded" about Castro's Cuba today than they were immediately after the Bay of Pigs episode 18 months ago.

In the latest nation-wide sampling of opinion by the Gallup Poll—completed as the Russian buildup in Cuba continued—only one person in four would favor the United States sending armed forces into Cuba at this time to overthrow Fidel Castro.

Better than six out of ten would be against such a move into the Caribbean island at this time.

The sentiment on this question today closely parallels that recorded by a poll conducted in April, 1961.

A further question reveals, however, that the public is by no means complacent about the current Cuban situation.

Only about one person in five favors the

United States adopting a hands-off policy with regard to that island.

Various United States actions suggested by the public range from blockade to bombing to trade embargo to "Do something, but don't start a big war."

Poll reporters first asked:

"Taking everything into account, what action, if any, do you think the United States should take at this time in regard to Cuba?"

The replies can be categorized as follows:

Bomb, invade, belligerent act — 10%

Trade embargo, starve them out 13

Do something short of actual

war — — — — — 26

Keep out, hands off — — — 22

Other action — — — — — 4

Don't know — — — — — 25

The public was next asked:

"Some people say that the United States should send armed forces into Cuba to help overthrow Castro. Do you agree or disagree?"

Agree — — — — — 34%

Disagree — — — — — 63

No Opinion — — — — — 13